

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 217285
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
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APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:LBRECKON
JCS - COL. STEELE
AE - CAPT. SISSON
PM/SA - MR. MILLER

-----115350 260015Z /73

O R 252233Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
INFO SECDEF WASHDC 1086
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

S E C R E T STATE 217285

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NPG, MNUC, NATO

SUBJECT: NPG MARITIME STUDY GROUP - DRAFT REPORT TO
MINISTERS

REF: USNATO 07384 (DTG 031514Z AUG 78)

1. THERE FOLLOWS BELOW TEXT OF US COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED
PROGRESS REPORT TO NPG MINISTERS ON THE WORK OF THE MARI-
TIME STUDY GROUP (REF).

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE US DELEGATION BELIEVES THE DRAFT
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PROGRESS REPORT FORWARDED BY THE SECRETARY TO BE GENERALLY
ADEQUATE. NEVERTHELESS, BOTH THE TEXT AND OUR DELIBERA-
TIONS TO DATE HAVE BEEN RATHER NARROWLY CONFINED TO EITHER
INITIAL USE OR EARLY FOLLOW ON USE. WHILE PPG IS APPRO-
PRIATE TO THESE SITUATIONS, WE BELIEVE THAT AT THIS POINT
WE SHOULD BE RELUCTANT TO GENERALIZE TO BROADER MARITIME
CONFLICT SITUATIONS. THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC CHANGES ARE

SUGGESTED.

A. PARAGRAPH 3, THIRD SENTENCE. INSERT QUOTE INITIAL
UNQUOTE BEFORE QUOTE EMPLOYMENT UNQUOTE. REASON: AS ABOVE.

B. PARAGRAPH 3. CHANGE FIFTH SENTENCE TO READ: QUOTE OUR

DELIBERATIONS ALSO UPHOLD THE PRINCIPLE THAT MARITIME
TNF SHOULD COMPLEMENT THE CONVENTIONAL FORCES AND NOT BE
USED TO RATIONALIZE THE EXISTENCE OF DEFICIENCIES IN
CONVENTIONAL FORCES. UNQUOTE. REASONS:

DELIBERATION IS MORE REFLECTIVE OF OUR EFFORTS THAN
STUDY. NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAVE AT TIMES BEEN USED TO CORRECT
FOR CONVENTIONAL WEAKNESS; WE AGREE HOWEVER THAT THEY
SHOULD NOT BE SO USED. ON THE FINAL CLAUSE WE DO NOT
BELIEVE THAT OUR EFFORT HAS PROGRESSED FAR ENOUGH TO
SUPPORT THIS CONCLUSION.

C. PARAGRAPH 3, SIXTH SENTENCE. INSERT QUOTE LIMITED
UNQUOTE BEFORE QUOTE USE UNQUOTE. INSERT QUOTE LARGELY
UNQUOTE BEFORE POLITICAL. REASON: ACCURACY.

D. PARAGRAPH 3 LAST SENTENCE DELETE QUOTE AT SEA UNQUOTE.
REASON: IT MAY BE THAT WE WISH TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS
AGAINST SHORE TARGETS OF MARITIME SIGNIFICANCE. CHRISTOPHER
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